



December 18, 2002

BY ELECTRONIC COMMENT FILING SYSTEM

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Communication CC Docket No. 01-338, Review of the Section 251
Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 17, 2002, James Akerhielm, President and Chief Executive Officer of NewSouth Communications ("NewSouth") and Jake E. Jennings, Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, NewSouth, met separately with Marsha J. MacBride, Chief of Staff to the Federal Communications Commission and Christopher Libertelli, Legal Advisor to Chairman Michael K. Powell; and with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin and Daniel Gonzalez, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Martin. On December 18, 2002, we met separately with Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy and Matthew Brill, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abernathy; Jordan Goldstein, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael Copps; Lisa Zaina, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein; and William Maher, Richard Lerner, Michelle Carey, and Scott Bergmann of the Wireline Competition Bureau.

The purpose of the meetings was to discuss access to unbundled DS-1 loops, interoffice transport and Enhanced Extended Loops ("EELs") consistent with NewSouth's previous filings in this proceeding. During the meetings NewSouth reviewed the company's financial and business status and distributed excerpts from previous filings made in this docket.

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In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the FCC's Rules, a copy of this letter is being filed, using the Electronic Comment Filing System, for inclusion in the public record of the above-referenced docket.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Jake E. Jennings

Jake E. Jennings

cc: Christopher Libertelli
Daniel Gonzalez
Matthew Brill
Jordan Goldstein
Lisa Zaina
William Maher
Richard Lerner
Michelle Carey
Scott Bergmann